



## NORTH CAROLINA ARMY RETIREE COUNCIL

Post Office Box 70029 Fort Bragg, North Carolina 28307-5000

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20 September 2005

### MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Minutes of the North Carolina Army Retiree Council Meeting  
16 September 2005

1. The quarterly meeting of the North Carolina Army Retiree Council (NCARC) was called to order by Co-Chairman SGM(R) Law at 1400 hours, 16 September 2005 at the Ft. Bragg Officers' Club.

#### MEMBERS PRESENT

COL(R) Don Latella, Co-Chairman  
SGM(R) Larry Law, Co-Chairman  
COL(R) Clifford M. Deal (III)  
COL(R) Donald J. Goulet (V)  
COL(R) George F. Heberer (IV)  
COL(R) Edward Mennona (VII)  
COL(R) William F. Rawley Sr. (VI)  
CSM(R) Rodney C. Deese (III)  
SGM(R) Frank M. Foronda (VII)  
1SG(R) Robert H. Ward (II)  
MSG(R) Moses L. Best  
MSG(R) Joe L. Wooten (VIII)  
SFC(R) Richard A. Clemmons (IV)  
( ) indicates regional area

#### OTHERS PRESENT

##### VISITOR

1SG(R) Milton Foster – Lenoir, NC

2. SGM(R) Law gave an invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. SGM(R) Law introduced and welcomed COL(R) Edward Mennona, the new co-chairman for Region VII replacing COL(R) Byers.

#### 4. Regional Reports:

##### Region I – Western – No report

Region II – Northwest - 1SG(R) Ward reported that plans were ongoing for the third annual Military Appreciation Day. He stated that former co-chairman COL(R) Sweet was still working for the Red Cross in the area and was heavily involved with the current events surrounding hurricane Katrina.

Region III – Southern Piedmont – COL(R) Deal reported that the next scheduled regional meeting is 18 October 2005. CSM(R) Deese reported on a problem he encountered when attempting to schedule a routine colonoscopy screening. He indicated that he was informed TRICARE would not pay for the procedure. Much discussion followed. It was concluded that had he had a referral from his primary care health provider that circumstances would have been different, and that TRICARE would not have balked and the procedure would have been covered for payment. It was pointed out that who are under TRICARE Prime must have referrals for procedures in order for TRICARE to cover the expense.

Region IV – Triad – COL(R) Heberer wanted to know if there had been any change on the effective date for paid-up SBP. He was informed that there had not been any change as of this time; however, there has been proposed legislation to establish an earlier effective date wherein those who are age 70 and have been paying for SBP for 30 years would not longer have to pay and still be covered. SFC(R) Clemmons reported that the problem he had encountered regarding payment by TRICARE had been resolved once he got in contact with the right person. Apparently, his situation came about during the change-over of contractors and certain administrative procedures were undergoing changes.

Region V – Cape Fear – COL(R) Goulet reported that he is involved with the Braxton-Bragg Chapter of the AUSA, which is the only chapter in NC and primarily operates in the Ft. Bragg area. He outlined plans for establishment of several sub-chapters which eventually could possibly become independent chapter throughout the state. He stated that the prime target areas very much coincide with the regional structure of the NCARC. Part of the AUSA's vision is that these sub-chapters could offer assistance to retirees and veterans in the regional areas and that the NCARC region and the AUSA sub-chapter could support one another.

Region VI – Triangle – COL(R) Rawley reported that the National Guard Headquarters has a paid position dedicated to Family Support, primarily for the guardsmen who are deployed. He also reported that the USO at the RDU Airport is still going strong operating 24/7. There are plans underway to open another USO at RDU in the other terminal.

Region VII – Southeastern - COL(R) Mennona stated that since was the new guy on the block, any offers of advice/assistance would be gratefully accepted. SGM(R) Foranda reported that after a great deal of pushing and shoving, Columbus County has agreed to pay for the travel of veterans when they go to the VA Medical Center in Fayetteville.

Region VIII – Coastal Plains – MSG(R) Wooten reported that informal meetings are held the first Saturday each month. He stated that notices for the meetings are published in the local newspapers.

#### 5. Co-Chairmen Comments:

COL(R) Latella reported that the Golf Tournament held in the morning went well. Over 65 golfers participated. He re-emphasized the importance of getting medical referrals from the primary health care provider in order to prevent possible problems for TRICARE payment. He expressed his appreciation for those coming from across the state to participate in RAD 05.

SGM(R) Law mentioned that retirees could lend their expertise and assistance by searching out the local National Guard/Reserve Family Support POC in their respective areas. He asked the council to think about the possibility of moving the RAD to an earlier time in the year to get out of the 'hurricane season' so we can discuss at the next meeting. He requested that members wear their NCARC name tag at the RAD dinner. He announced that NCARC future meetings that are conducted on Saturdays will commence 1000 hours rather than 0930 hours.

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6. The next meeting is scheduled for 19 November 2005 at 1000 hours.

7. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1430 hours.

*Lawrence L. Law*

Lawrence L. Law  
Sergeant Major, USA Retired  
Co-Chairman

*Donald Latella*

Donald Latella  
Colonel, USA Retired  
Co-Chairman

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1 ea Council Member  
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